FLORIDA'S NEW ELECTION LAWS

*Florida's new law makes commonsense improvements to elections that keep voting easy, and make cheating harder.*

**WHAT DOES SB90 DO?**

**Brings voter ID to mail-in voting, similar to Florida's existing ID law for in-person voting.**
- Voters only need a Florida driver's license, a state ID card number, or the last four of their social security number to comply. ID cards are free to indigent voters.
- The ID number must be provided when requesting an absentee ballot, which can be done over the phone, in person, or in writing.
- Florida law already requires in-person voters to show a photo ID, otherwise they must vote a provisional ballot.

**Strengthens safeguards for voters' absentee ballots.**
- Anyone who needs assistance with a mail ballot may get help from their immediate family, or from a “designee” chosen to pick up and/or return their ballot.
- Designees are limited to handling two ballots per election, besides their own and their immediate family's ballots, and must identify themselves to ensure chain-of-custody.
- Regulations like these prevent widespread ballot trafficking by paid operatives and partisans, directly addressing a vulnerability that has been exploited to intimidate and disenfranchise voters.
- Absentee ballots can only be sent after a specific request from a voter, ensuring that voters' ballots are not being circulated without their knowledge or consent.

**Bolsters voter protections against solicitation near polls.**
- No group or individual may attempt to influence a voter within 150 feet of a polling place, drop box, or early voting site, creating an expanded zone of sanctity for voters.
- Voters in line may get any assistance they need directly from election officials or volunteers, who are empowered to “giv[e] items to voters” within the sanctity zone.
- Many states ban efforts to solicit or influence voters at polling sites. New York bans anyone from providing voters with items worth more than $1.

**Regulates drop box deployment to guarantee security and uniformity.**
- Drop box sites must be designated at least 30 days before an election, may not be moved once sites are designated.
- Sites must be chosen so “all voters” in a county have an “equal opportunity to cast a ballot.”
- Drop boxes can be made available during early voting hours of operation.
• Each drop box must be staffed and monitored during available hours, to ensure their physical security. Ballots must be removed at least daily.

**Brings greater transparency to the voting process, which bolsters credibility and trust.**

• Observers must be able to view the ballot duplication and absentee signature matching processes.

• On election day, officials will now report live turnout data, including daily counts of absentee ballot requests, ballot returns, and ballots not yet tabulated.

• Legal settlements and consent decrees that would “nullify, suspend, or conflict” with state law must be reported to the legislature and the attorney general.

• Jurisdictions may not use any non-public revenue to finance election operations.

**HOW FLORIDA’S VOTING LAWS COMPARE TO BLUE STATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FLORIDA (UNDER NEW LAW)</th>
<th>NY (UNDER NEW LAW)</th>
<th>NJ (UNDER NEW LAW)</th>
<th>DE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Early Voting</strong></td>
<td>8-14 days</td>
<td>9 days</td>
<td>9 days</td>
<td>No early voting until 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weekend Voting</strong></td>
<td>2 mandatory Saturdays and 1 mandatory Sunday; 1 optional Sunday.</td>
<td>2 weekends of early voting</td>
<td>2 weekends of early voting</td>
<td>No weekend voting until 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Absentee Voting</strong></td>
<td>No-excuse absentee voting</td>
<td>Requires excuse</td>
<td>No-excuse absentee voting</td>
<td>Requires excuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Voter ID</strong></td>
<td>ID required</td>
<td>No ID required</td>
<td>No ID required</td>
<td>ID required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Solicitation at Polling Places</strong></td>
<td>Bans attempts to influence voters within 150 ft of polling places and drop boxes.</td>
<td>Bans passing out food and water unless it is under $1 and does not identify the provider</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ballot Drop Boxes</strong></td>
<td>Allows drop boxes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**HOW FLORIDA’S VOTING LAWS COMPARE TO BLUE STATES**

• The vast majority of Americans support commonsense safeguards to protect the integrity of our elections. Florida’s election reforms are squarely in line with this goal.

• 64% of Americans want to strengthen election safeguards while only 21% prefer to roll back safeguards to make it “easier” to vote, according to a recent poll.

  - Support for election safeguards spans across all ideologies and demographics, including 51% of African American voters and 66% of Hispanic voters.

• While some have been quick to demonize voter ID laws, the American people see voter ID requirements as easy, commonsense rules that protect their vote.

**HONEST ELECTIONS PROJECT**
- Over three-quarters (77%) of Americans support photo ID requirements according to a poll commissioned by Honest Elections Project Action (HEP Action).

- A poll by Rasmussen found that 75% of likely voters say ID laws are necessary to a “fair and secure election process,” including 60% of Democrats and 77% of Independents.

- Despite the partisan rhetoric, safeguards like voter ID do not have a negative impact on minority voter turnout and actually enjoy widespread support from minority voters.
  - 64% of Black, 78% of Hispanic, and 76% of low-income voters say ID laws aren’t a burden.
  - Voter ID has strong support from young voters, seniors, African Americans, and Hispanics.
  - Studies show that voter ID requirements do not actually negatively impact minority voter turnout in elections.

- Safeguards around mail-in voting are not only important for our elections, but also enjoy widespread support from the American people.
  - 74% of Americans support requiring all mailed ballots be received by election day.
  - 66% of Americans support applying voter ID requirements to absentee ballots.
  - 62% of Americans think vote trafficking should be illegal. Only 11% support the tactic.